

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims as follows:

1. (cancelled)
2. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, further comprising a frost-protection device protecting said heating body against frost when said fluid is a liquid.
3. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, further comprising a means for protecting said heating body against frost when said fluid is a liquid.
4. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, further comprising a pump fluidically connected to said heating body and circulating said fluid through said heating body.
5. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, wherein said heating body is heated only during the drying section.
6. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, wherein:

said housing has a side wall and a rear wall; and

said heating body is disposed in at least one of said side wall and said rear wall.
7. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 6, wherein said heating body has a meandering shape.

8. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, wherein said heating body has a meandering shape.

9. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 6, wherein a section of said heating body extends as far as said motor area.

10. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, wherein a section of said heating body extends as far as said motor area.

11. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 9, further comprising:

a heat exchanger heated by said gas burner;

supply lines for supplying the rinsing liquid; and

said heating body and said supply lines being joined together in said heat exchanger.

12. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 10, further comprising:

a heat exchanger heated by said gas burner;

supply lines for supplying the rinsing liquid; and

said heating body and said supply lines being joined together in said heat exchanger.

13. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, further comprising:

a heat exchanger heated by said gas burner;

supply lines for supplying the rinsing liquid; and

said heating body and said supply lines being joined together in said heat exchanger.

14. (currently amended) The dishwasher according to claim 20 4, further comprising:

pumps; and

an electrical power supply connected at least to said pumps and said gas burner and supplying at least an amount of electrical energy required for starting said gas burner, for controlling said rinsing section of said program, for open-loop and closed-loop control of said pumps, and for carrying out said rinsing section.

15. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 14, wherein said energy supply is at least one rechargeable battery.

16. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 15, wherein said rechargeable battery is charged continuously.

17. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 15, wherein said rechargeable battery is charged continuously provided that electrical power for charging is available from an external power supply.

18. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 15, wherein:

said rechargeable battery provides a signal dependent upon a state of charge of said rechargeable battery; and

said rinsing section does not start until said signal enables a start command from a user.

19. (original) The dishwasher according to claim 15, wherein:

said rechargeable battery provides a signal dependent upon a state of charge of said rechargeable battery; and

said rinsing section does not start until said signal indicates a predefined state of said rechargeable battery.

20. (currently amended) A dishwasher for cleaning items, comprising:

a washing and rinsing liquid container;

a motor area outside of said washing and liquid container;

a housing ~~defining a~~ enclosing said motor area;

a controller disposed at said housing and being programmed to execute a cleaning program including at least a rinsing mode, in which a rinsing liquid is conveyed to the items, and a drying mode;

at least one closed tubular heating body filled with a fluid, said heating body being disposed in said housing;

a gas burner disposed in said motor area in heat-conducting contact with said heating body and being connected to said controller and controlled thereby to heat the rinsing liquid and to dry rinsed items; and

said controller programmed to:

control said gas burner to heat said heating body during said drying mode;
and

control said gas burner to heat the rinsing liquid during a mode of said
program in which the rinsing liquid is used.